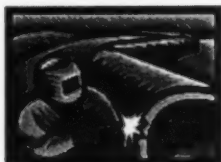




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PIPELINE PLANS TAKE A LEAP FORWARD

On January 7, 2002, the Mackenzie Delta Producers Group and the Mackenzie Valley Aboriginal Pipeline Corporation (MVAPC) took the next significant step towards the eventual construction of a pipeline down the Mackenzie Valley. After completing a two-year feasibility study, the two groups announced their intent to begin preparing the full pipeline applications that are necessary to proceed with the \$3 billion project.

The Producers Group is a consortium of four oil companies; Imperial Oil, Conoco, Shell and ExxonMobil. In October 2001, the Producers Group signed a memorandum of understanding with the MVAPC, which represents the Aboriginal people of the NWT. The MOU is a guide for future development of the proposed pipeline and includes a potential one-third ownership interest for the MVAPC.

This next stage towards pipeline development is called the "Project Definition" phase. It involves all the technical, environmental, commercial and public consultation work that is required to prepare the regulatory applications. This phase, which also includes the regulatory review process, will take 3 to 4 years to complete at an estimated cost of \$200-\$250 million.

If the project moves forward according to plan, construction of the pipeline will commence in 2006 with natural gas flowing sometime in 2008.



OIL AND GAS EDUCATIONAL KITS



The Minerals, Oil and Gas Division, Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development in partnership with the College and Career Development Division, Education, Culture and Employment has produced these kits to increase understanding of the growing oil and gas sector. Funding was also received from the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. The kit is designed to be a complementary resource to the *Opportunities in Oil & Gas in the Northwest Territories* kits that were sent to schools and career centres last year.

The kits contain: suggested hands on activities for a variety of learner groups, various classroom resources such as posters and pamphlets, as well as occupational information for the oil and gas sector. In addition, a series of five lesson plans is included. These plans involve the students in hands on learning activities that have been linked to the Alberta curriculum learning outcomes.

The kits have been distributed to career centres and secondary schools throughout the NWT.

ELECTRONIC LABOUR EXCHANGE

Under the Labour Market Development Agreement (LMDA), signed with the Government of Canada, the Department of Education, Culture and Employment has the responsibility for the development and distribution of northern labour market initiatives. This includes labour exchange services such as the national job bank. While the national job bank is a useful tool, a "made in the north" labour exchange will be tailored to meet the specific needs of northern workers and employers. At the same time, it will help the GNWT with its 5th priority of "Maximizing Northern Employment".

Services for Employers

The electronic labour exchange will allow employers to post jobs and view on-line resumes of job seekers on the website. Employers will have the choice of posting jobs electronically, printing out the form and submitting via facsimile or by telephoning their request to the site administrator. Job postings will be territory-wide and will contain as much or as little information as an em-

ployer chooses. Employers will be able to request that resumes/applications be delivered electronically, via facsimile or in person.

Services for Job Seekers

Job seekers will be able to view all job postings registered with the site. At the same time, they will be able to post electronic profiles that can be saved and altered with each position they apply on. These profiles will be based on a simple "fill in the blanks" format.

The services offered through this labour exchange are free and if you would like more information, please contact Krista Rivet at (867) 920-6384 or krista_rivet@gov.nt.ca. We expect to launch this new initiative in April 2002.

The website will be found at the following address:

www.jobsnorth.ca



OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION ACTIVITY—WINTER 2001/2002

Another year of robust oil and gas exploration in the NWT is expected for the current winter season. It will see the continuation of exploration efforts in the Mackenzie Delta, Central Mackenzie Valley and Deh Cho regions. Here are some of the expected highlights from the various regions:

Mackenzie Delta:

The Mackenzie Delta is viewed as the next large untapped sedimentary basin in North America. Nine oil and gas companies have plans to conduct programs in the region this winter. AEC, Anadarko, Devon, Chevron, Conoco, Explor Data, Petro Canada and Shell will be conducting seismic programs while Petro Canada, Devon and Japex are expected to drill seven exploratory wells. In total, this exploration should see companies spending between \$200-250 million and directly employ over 1300 people.

Central Mackenzie:

Four companies are expected to perform exploration work in the Sahtu and Gwich'in regions this winter. EOG Canada and Paramount have plans to drill exploratory wells while Explor Data has confirmed its seismic program. Devlan Resources will also be active in the region. It is anticipated that approximately \$23 million will be spent and that 100 employees will be required.

Deh Cho (Ft. Liard):

Following the discovery last year of major gas reserves in the region, two companies are expected to continue with exploration programs this winter. Anadarko and Explor Data have plans for seismic programs and Anadarko also is proposing to drill 2 exploratory wells. Total expenditures in the region will be approximately \$20 million, with nearly 200 people finding direct employment.

Deh Cho (Cameron Hills):

Paramount Resources has applied for and received conditional approval to undertake seismic and drilling projects in the area as well as constructing a gathering system to connect previous significant discoveries. If Paramount meets the required conditions and proceeds with the various projects, approximately \$30 million will be spent in the region and 200 people employed.

The Mackenzie Valley Development Project at the Department of RWED has prepared an information package that summarizes the projects in the various regions. For more information, please contact Robert Redshaw, Program Development and Planning Officer at (867) 920-8954 or by email: robert_redshaw@gov.nt.ca.

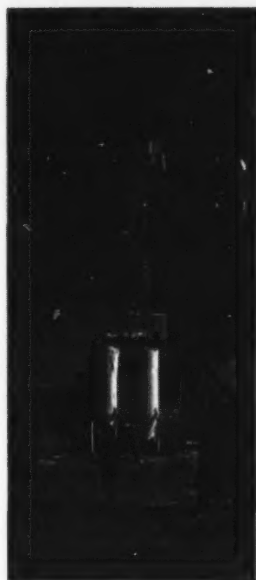
PETRO CANADA'S EDUCATION INITIATIVES AT SWIMMING POINT

In an effort to invest in its workers and develop an educated and well-trained workforce, Petro-Canada, in partnership with Aurora College's Inuvik Campus, is piloting two education initiatives at Swimming Point this year. A General Education Development (GED) program for those people without a high school diploma and a Petroleum Industry Training Services (PITS) safety training course will be offered to any interested employees. Participation in these programs is voluntary and employees will access the programs outside of their regular 12-hour workday. These courses will be self-paced, computer-based courses that will be accessible to all employees 24 hours a day.

Education is a high priority for Petro-Canada. Petro-Canada believes that literacy and education are key to advancement and opportunities in the oil and gas industry. These education initiatives will allow employees to have more opportunities for advancement, higher wages, increased responsibility on the job, as well as

affording greater mobility within the industry.

It is anticipated that these programs will be available to workers at Swimming Point by the end of January 2002. Petro-Canada is anticipating that Swimming Point will be operating year-round to support the company's exploration activity.



*Akita-Equtak, Rig #60 at
Petro-Canada Site*

Photo courtesy of Sunny
Monroe, Far North Oil and
Gas Review

HEALTH AND SOCIAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Increased exploration and construction activities in the Liard and Mackenzie Valleys will have dramatic impacts, both positive and negative, on northern communities. NWT residents will benefit greatly from increased employment and business opportunities. However, negative impacts such as family instability, child neglect, and increased abuse of drugs and alcohol have been associated with previous increases in industrial development.

In an effort to be more active in anticipating, preparing for and coping with these negative impacts, the Government of the Northwest Territories (led by the Department of Health and Social Services) and its community partners have established a "Health and Social Impacts Sub-Committee" as part of the Mackenzie Valley Development Project.

The sub-committee will work with Aboriginal organizations, GNWT departments, community agencies and other stakeholders to assess the potential health and social impacts of proposed resource development projects. The capacity of existing support programs and services will also be assessed.

A five year plan to help prepare for and cope with impacts will be developed and implemented as soon as possible. Existing programs will be enhanced or new initiatives introduced in an effort to ensure that all NWT residents receive the maximum benefits from the development of our natural resources.

For more information on this project please contact Sherry Lovely, Impact Assessment Analyst, Department of H&SS at (867) 920-3418 or by e-mail: sherry_lovely@gov.nt.ca.

PROPOSED WESTERN NWT BIOPHYSICAL STUDY

The western Northwest Territories has experienced a dramatic increase in resource exploration activity over the last few years. At the same time, many of the area's residents depend on its natural resources for their physical, economic, cultural and spiritual wellness.

Currently, there is insufficient information and data on the western NWT in terms of development potential, environmental quality, wildlife populations, vegetation, climate change and critical habitats. As a result, the cumulative effects of development and climate change are not fully understood.

Realizing that it is critical that the gaps in information and data be addressed, the Government of the NWT has

proposed the creation of the Western NWT Biophysical Study. The participation of a broad range of parties, including Aboriginal organizations, industry, environmental groups and various levels of government, is needed to ensure that the Study will provide a comprehensive base of information to support sound resource and land management decisions.

Potential partners for the proposed Study have been invited to a workshop in Yellowknife on January 17, 2002. The workshop will provide a forum to discuss the potential benefits and drawbacks of a biophysical study and to determine whether there is support in principle to continue on to the next stage of the project.

DEH CHO RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE FORT SIMPSON—FEBRUARY 11-14, 2002

The Fort Simpson Tri-Council is hosting the Deh Cho Resource Development Conference in early February. The theme of the conference is *Assessing Opportunities / Maximizing Benefits*. The conference has been designed with four goals in mind. These are:

1. Provide delegates with a strategic overview of current and potential development in the region in the areas of oil and gas exploration, pipeline development, mining, energy, forestry, and the traditional economy, with a focus on sustainable development.
2. Assist communities to identify short and long-term

training and employment opportunities for Deh Cho residents.

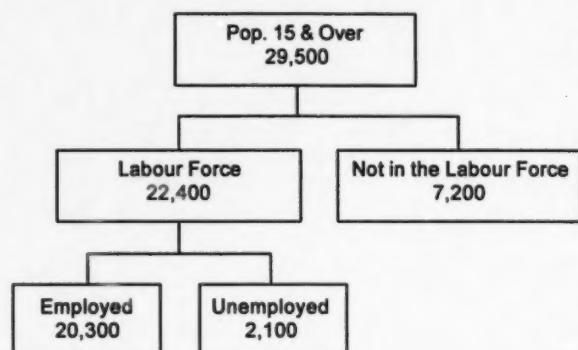
3. Assist communities to identify short and long-term business opportunities and initiatives that will maximize the economic benefits of resource development within the Deh Cho.
4. Ensure that the social and environmental dimensions of development are incorporated into all discussions.

If you would like more information on the conference, please contact Nogha Enterprises Ltd. at 867-695-3533 or by email to lyallg@cancom.net.

MAXIMIZING NORTHERN EMPLOYMENT (MNE) ADVANCED OIL AND GAS TRAINING

Region	Type of Training	Number of Participants
Fort Smith Region	Drill Rig Training in Nisku	26
Inuvik Region	Drill Rig Training	84
	Service Rig Training	14
	Truck Driver Training	14
	Environmental Monitor Training	69
	Ice Profiling Training	12
Sahtu Region	Drill Rig Training	7
	Pre-Trades Program	12
	Colville Oil Rig Training	4
TOTAL		242

NWT LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY - DECEMBER 2001



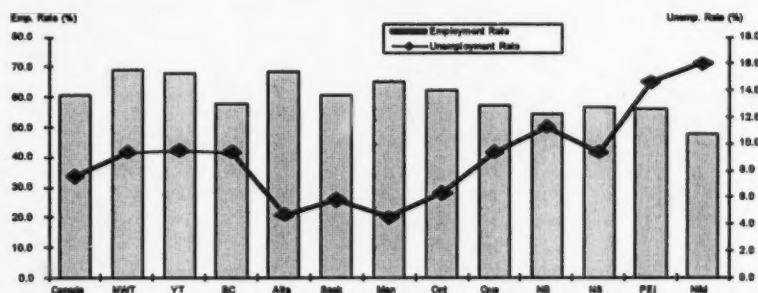
For December, there were some 2,100 persons who were unemployed in the Northwest Territories; this value increased by 100 from November. The overall NWT unemployment rate stood at 9.4% for December. This compares with the unemployment rate for Canada of 7.6% in December.

The drop in employment in December returns employment levels to those reported in March of this year, with the employment rate again below the 70% level attained in May. Compared to February of 2001, when data first started being reported, the December information indicates that labour force participation is up by 100 persons, employment is down by 100 persons and unemployment is 200 higher.

Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics. *Labour Force Activity, December 2001.*

EMPLOYMENT RATE AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Canada, Provinces & Territories, December 2001



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics. *Labour Force Activity, December 2001.*

REGIONAL CONTACTS

Career Centres and Canada-NWT Service Centres Education, Culture and Employment

Fort Simpson (Deh Cho Hall)	695-7334
Fort Smith (Sweetgrass Building)	872-7217
Hay River (Courthouse Building)	874-9200
Inuvik (1st Floor Perry Building)	777-7323
Norman Wells (Government Building)	587-2566
Yellowknife (Joe Tobie Building)	766-5100

Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development

Hay River	874-6702
Fort Simpson	695-2231
Fort Smith	872-6400
Inuvik	777-7102
Norman Wells	587-3503
Fort Liard	770-4300
Yellowknife (Scotia Centre)	920-8691

